

Message Text

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ACTION FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 A-01 L-03 SSO-00 /015 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2378

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 5663

FOR BURMAN, L/M AND HOLMES, FBO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, AR

SUBJECT: PROJECT EOBBA, CONTRACT NO. 3102-212008, PROPERTY #05102

REF: BA-5654

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF LETTER IN SPANISH JUST RECEIVED FROM GREGORIO CHODOS, PRESIDENT OF SITRA, DATED AUGUST 22, 1975. TO ASSURE EARLIEST TRANSMITTAL, TRANSLATION NOT YET CLEARED WITH BRONS AND SALAS. ANY TRANSLATION ERRORS OF SUBSTANCE WILL BE SUBSEQUENTLY CORRECTED IF MEANING IS ALTERED.

2. BEGIN INFORMAL TRANSLATION - QUOTE: DEAR MR. MONTLLOR: ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WE HAVE ANALYZED YOUR CONCERN, WHICH IS ALSO OURS, OVER THE PACE OF THE CONSTRUCTION, AND ESPECIALLY OVER THE TERMINATION DATE OF SAME.

3. WE HAVE HAD MANY DIFFICULTIES AND IT IS NO USE TO GO OVER THEM, INASMUCH AS THEY HAVE BEEN EXPLAINED SUFFICIENTLY.

4. LATELY, THE MATTER OF SETTING A TIME LIMIT HAS BEEN GIVEN SERIOUS ATTENTION, ESPECIALLY AFTER LEARNING OF THE INTEREST OF YOUR EMBASSY IN BEING ABLE TO HAVE THE BUILDING AVAILABLE IN SUFFICIENT TIME FOR THE INAUGURATION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE PREMISES TO COINCIDE WITH THE EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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5. WE HAVE MADE A THOROUGH STUDY OF THE CURRENT STATE OF

CONSTRUCTION AND HAVE ANALYZED WHAT STILL REMAINS TO BE DONE. BASED ON THESE STUDIES, WE BELIEVE IT POSSIBLE TO FINISH THE PROJECT WITHIN THE MONTH OF MAY 1976. MORE SPECIFICALLY, WE ARE IN A POSITION TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO DELIVER IT ON MAY 15, 1976, WITH PARTIAL DELIVERIES BEGINNING ON APRIL 15.

6. IN ORDER TO DO THIS, WE WOULD HAVE TO IMPLEMENT AN ACTION PLAN TO BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY; THIS WOULD CAUSE US TO MAKE NEW INVESTMENTS, THE RENEGOTIATION OF SOME CONTRACTS, INCREASES IN PERSONNEL, ETC.

7. OBVIOUSLY, TO TAKE THESE MEASURES WE SHOULD HAVE OVERCOME THE PRESENT SITUATION OF LACK OF CONTRACTUAL UNDERSTANDING, AND CONCLUDE A DEFINITIVE DOCUMENT THAT WILL PUT AN END TO SUCH LONG PROCEDURES. WE SHOULD REACH THIS AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED FIFTEEN DAYS, FOR US TO BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN OUR OFFER TO FINISH BY THE DATES MENTIONED ABOVE. WE WANT IT TO BE CLEAR THAT THIS IS IN NO WAY A PRESSURE TACTIC BUT ONLY AN OBJECTIVE WAY OF DEALING WITH THE ISSUE. FURTHERMORE, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT REACHING SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITHIN THE PERIOD MENTIONED SHOULD BE DIFFICULT, FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- THE AUDIT IS PRACTICALLY FINISHED.

- WE HAVE CONTINUOUSLY SUBMITTED OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION THAT SUPPORTS ALL OF OUR DEMANDS, IN THE LIGHT OF AN ARGENTINE SITUATION OF WHICH YOU ARE AWARE, AND ITS GRAVE IMPACT ON OUR INDUSTRY, ON WHICH IT WOULD BE SUPERFLUOUS TO COMMENT FURTHER.

- WITH REGARD TO THE PAST, WE WILL CONSENT TO ANY REASONABLE SOLUTION THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT OUR MINIMUM INTERESTS.

- THE SAME GOES FOR WHAT REMAINS TO BE COMPLETED; THAT IS, TO THE CONDITIONS TO WHICH THE TWO PARTIES MUST ADHERE IN THE COMING MONTHS UNTIL THE DELIVERY OF THE BUILDING.

- THE PRESENT STATE OF THE PROJECT PERMITS WORKING SIMULTANEOUSLY IN SEVERAL AREAS.

- WE BELIEVE THAT WORKING IN GOOD FAITH, AS HAS BEEN PROPOSED ABOVE, AND WITH THE CONTRIBUTION OF YOUR PARTICIPATION WHICH OUR FIRM CONSIDERS INVALUABLE, AND WITH YOUR WISE OPINION AS OBSERVERS OF THE SITUATION, WE WILL FIND WITH MESSRS. RALSTON, SEREY, CONDINE AND BURMAN, AS HAPPENED IN THE PAST, THE EARLY SOLUTION THAT WE ALL SEEK, ONE THAT IS JUST, FAIR AND ORGANIC, UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR THE PEACE OF MIND OF BOTH PARTIES.

8. DEAR MR. MONTLLOR, WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE ALL YOU HAVE DONE TO DATE. WE URGE YOU TO MAKE A LAST EFFORT TO BRING ABOUT THE MEANS FOR TAKING THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ATTAIN THE GOAL OF DELIVERY THE BUILDING ON THE DATE MENTIONED. WE BELIEVE THAT THE BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE FOR CONVERSATIONS WITH THE MENTIONED GENTLEMEN, OR SOME OF THEM, TO BE CARRIED OUT IN BUENOS AIRES.

IT IS THE ONLY WAY FOR THESE GENTLEMEN TO FEEL THE REALITY
HERE. SHOULD THIS NOT BE POSSIBLE, I STAND READY TO TRAVEL TO
WASHINGTON BEFORE SEPTEMBER 5, BECAUSE UNAVOIDABLE COMMITMENTS
DO NOT PERMIT ME TO DO IT AFTER THAT DATE. NATURALLY, IF WE
SHOULD HAVE TO MAKE THE TRIP, WE SHOULD BE ASSURED TO BE ABLE
TO SEE MESSRS. RALSTON, SEREY, CONDINE AND BURMAN, AND HAVE
THEM GIVE US SUFFICIENT TIME IN ORDER TO FIND A SOLUTION.

9. IN ANY CASE, WE MUST ACT FAST. DO NOT FORGET THAT THE
EXTENSION OF THE TERMS OF AMENDMENT 3 EXPIRES ON AUGUST 31,
1975, AND WE WOULD AGAIN FACE THE SITUATION THAT PREVAILED WHEN
WE SENT A TELEGRAM TO MR. RALSTON ON NOVEMBER 27, 1974. THE
INCONVENIENCES QUOTE OF ALL KINDS UNQUOTE THAT WOULD STEM
FROM A STOPPAGE OF THE PROJECT, MUST NOT ESCAPE YOU. WE ALREADY
DISCARD THIS POSSIBILITY, BECAUSE IT WOULD MAKE NO SENSE TO
SACRIFICE THE EFFORT WHICH ALL HAVE MADE.

10. AWAITING YOUR KIND REPLY, ETC.

SIGNED: GREGORIO CHODOS

PRESIDENT UNQUOTE.

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